

Serial No. 09/117,799

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: September 3, 2002

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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile to: The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, D.C. 20231

on September 23, 2002

STAAS & HALSEY

By: Mark J. Henry

Date: 9-23-02

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**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please AMEND the following claims:

1. (TWICE AMENDED) A transmission system for transmitting digital signals[, time-division multiplex channels] between an exchange termination and a line termination, comprising:

an ATM network having user interfaces;

connection units, provided respectively at [wherein both] the exchange termination and the line termination [respectively have a means for connecting] to [a]respectively connect each of the exchange termination and the line termination to one of the user [interface]interfaces of [an]the ATM network; [and]

[means for converting]conversion units provided respectively at the exchange termination and the line terination, to convert time-division multiplex data into ATM cells, or ATM cells into time-division multiplex data[.]; and

[a means for allocating]an allocation unit to allocate a virtual ATM channel to each time-division multiplex channel.

4. (TWICE AMENDED) A [Transmission]transmission system according to claim 1, wherein the [means for converting time-division multiplex data and ATM cells contains]conversion units contain a channel multiplexer/demultiplexer for distributing digital signals of the individual time-division multiplex channels to the respectively allocated ATM cells, or the digital signals from the ATM cells and distribute them into the allocated time-division multiplex channels; said system further comprising an ATM converter for packing items of digital information received from the channel multiplexer/demultiplexer into ATM cells or, respectively, for unpacking ATM cells and emitting the digital information contained therein to the channel multiplexer/demultiplexer, and for inserting ATM cells from this cell stream, and an interface for passing synchronization information of the time-division multiplex signals to the ATM network or, respectively, to receive synchronization information from the ATM network, and pass it to the ATM converter and to the channel multiplexer/demultiplexer.

Please ADD the new claim.

5. (NEW) A transmission system according to claim 1, wherein the ATM network, the connection units, the conversion units and the allocation unit create a V1 reference point

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according to ITU-T G.960 between the exchange termination and the line termination.